

## VII

### BOOK REVIEWS

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF CHEMOTHERAPY ; with special Reference to the Specific and General Treatment of Syphilis. By John A. Kolmer, M.D., Dr. P.H., D.Sc. (Hon.), Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology in the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania and Member of the Research Institute for Cutaneous Medicine. Illustrated. Philadelphia and London ; W. B. Saunders Company. 1926. 55s. net.

CHEMOTHERAPY, with special reference to the treatment of syphilis, by Kolmer is the section of chemotherapy in his " Infection, Immunity and Specific Therapy," rewritten and brought up to date, with a considerable wealth of detail.

It is not a work for intensive study, but rather a work of reference which gives a complete survey of the subject of chemotherapy, which should be of great value to the clinician and laboratory worker in the domain of syphilis.

The syphilologist will find here described in the fullest and most lucid manner practically all the work, including the author's own contributions, that has been accomplished on the subject of chemotherapy, more especially that part of it relating to syphilis. The work is noteworthy for the lucid manner in which the technique of the practical applications of chemotherapy has been presented.

From Part VII. to the end of the book the author has provided us with an up-to-date and exhaustive account of the chemotherapy of syphilis.

The chapters dealing with the pathology of syphilis and with specific immunity in relation to treatment should be of the greatest interest to clinical workers in the field of syphilis.

The laboratory methods of elucidating the changes in the cerebrospinal fluid are detailed in Chapter XXII., and the author's charts should be particularly useful for conveying the information afforded by such tests to the clinician.

The chapter on bismuth chemotherapy provides new and useful information regarding the toxicity of the various forms of the drug as well as a good description of the pathological conditions resulting from its toxic action.

A portion of the work is dedicated to the methods of therapeutic application of the various chemotherapy remedies, and the illustrations accompanying the text make these chapters more than usually interesting and instructive.

The earlier chapters deal with the general principles and methods of chemotherapeutic investigation, and the laboratory worker will find a useful account of the various methods of determining the toxicity of the chemical agents used in chemotherapy.

A chapter deals with the application of chemotherapy to the treatment of bacterial diseases in man and the lower animals, and provides

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a useful epitome of the large amount of work that has been accomplished in this field.

Of more general interest are chapters dealing with chemotherapy in relation to such diseases as leishmaniasis, malaria, *Frambesia tropica*, etc., and there is an excellent account of its applications to diseases of doubtful or unknown origin, such as the anæmias, malignant disease, rabies, etc.

In general, the treatise should provide a mine of useful information upon the subject, and so be of the utmost value to the V.D. worker.

L. D.

**IMMUNO-CHEMICAL STUDIES.** Edited by Carl H. Browning, Gardiner Professor of Bacteriology in the University and Director of the Laboratory of Clinical Pathology, Western Infirmary, Glasgow. Contributors: C. H. Browning (Glasgow), M. Kosakai (Japan), T. J. Mackie (Edinburgh), T. Taniguchi (Japan), G. H. Wilson (Birmingham), N. Yoshinare (Japan). London: Constable & Co., Ltd. 1923. 12s. 6d. *net*.

"Immuno-chemical Studies" consists of a series of chapters upon immunological problems elaborated with considerable detail from papers by the author and his colleagues during the past few years.

The nature of antibodies, the differences between mature and immature antibodies, the nature of conglutin and complement action etc., have been exhaustively described and the V.D. serologist will find much important information upon the properties of antisera given in a compact but readable form.

The collection of an author's contributions to different journals in a compact book form is to be commended as it will tend to save much labour which is of necessity entailed in getting information regarding an author's work when a considerable number of journals and periodicals have to be consulted for the purpose.

The well-known work of the authors on immunity is here given in a compact and classified form, and will be of the greatest possible value to the immunologist in the prosecution of his research work.

L. D.